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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES GROUP THERAPY TRAINING SUPPORT FOR CLINICIANS AND CHAPLAINS WORKING WITH ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETERANS

February 28 – March 5, 2022

NEW YORK, January 27, 2022 – The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) welcomes all clinicians and chaplains working with active military and veterans to **AGPA Virtual Connect 2022**, its annual training conference, entitled “Uniting Through Groups: Pathways to Understanding and Inclusion.” In recognition of the care and service such individuals have been providing to the men and women who have served, current and past, in missions throughout the world, AGPA is offering a 35% registration discount for this conference as well as opportunities for tuition support through the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, the organization’s philanthropic arm. We believe the virtual format of this year’s conference will enable increased access for all, as it successfully did last March for Virtual AGPA Connect 2021.

“Groups have a long history of successfully working with active troops and veteran populations, dating back to World War II,” said Melyn Leszcz, MD, FRCPC, CGP, DFAGPA, AGPA President. “We are privileged to be able to provide this training and support at **AGPA Connect** to those who are helping the men and women of the U.S. military, veterans and their families.”

There are a variety of educational opportunities on the **AGPA Virtual Connect** program with relevance for military personnel and veterans’ hospital and agency staff, including:

- **“Embracing Today: Present Centered Group Therapy for Survivors of Trauma”** – a 2.5 hour afternoon workshop with Daniel Gross, LICSW; Barbara Niles, PhD; Analesa Clarke, PhD, CGP; William Unger, PhD and Melissa Wattenberg, PhD
- **“Integrating Psychotherapy and Trauma Groups in a Time of Medical, Racial and Sociopolitical Crisis: Implications for Leaders”** – a 2.5 hour afternoon workshop with Robert Klein, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA and Suzanne Phillips, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA
- **“Providing Caregiver and Leadership Support to Frontline Multidisciplinary Teams Working with Complex Trauma: Applying Group Work in Organizational Systems”** – a 2.5 hour afternoon workshop with Ashley Powell, PhD, CGP
- **“Getting to We: The Role of the Group in Repair of Moral Injury and Prevention of Suicide”** – a 1.5 hour open session with Eva Usadi, MA, BCD, CG
- **“Using Music in Addiction Recovery Groups: Helpful or Harmful?”** – a 1 hour afternoon open session with Marlys Woods, MS, LMFT, MT-BC

- **“Group Psychotherapy Approaches to Addiction and Substance Abuse”** – an all-day course with Philip Flores, PhD, CGP, ABPP, FAGPA and Jeffrey Roth, MD, CGP, FAGPA
- **“Coping with Aging in Ourselves and Our Clients: The Importance of Understanding and Acceptance”** – a 2.5 hour afternoon workshop with Ken Schwartz, MD, FRCPC and Shayne Vitemb, MA, LMFT, CGP
- **“Groups for the Dead: Those Deadened by the Experience of a Suicide of a Relative/Colleague in the Medical Profession”** – 1.5 hour evening workshop with Dame Clare Gerada, PRCGP, FRCPsych and Frances Griffiths, MEd, MSc, BA Adv Dip Ed, CGP

This one-of-a-kind event, bringing together many of the nation’s leading group therapists, will explore the variety of ways in which group therapy can help people and communities in today’s world. Scholarships are also available to attend this Meeting. For more information, contact AGPA at (212) 297-2190 or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of **AGPA Connect 2022**. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call (212) 297-2190.

About AGPA

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. AGPA represents over 2,000 mental health professional members including psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers, as well as mental health, family, and pastoral counselors, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning. The association also has 21 local and regional societies located across the country.

AGPA is committed to supporting the dignity and psychological safety of every individual without discrimination regarding race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sex, age, or disability. Central to our mission is a belief in the power of groups to treat mental illness, heal the scars from traumatic events, and enhance the well-being of adults and children in their families, schools, corporate settings, and communities.

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